

**Arizona Department of Health Services  
Executive Summary  
FY 2009-2013 Strategic Plan**

The Arizona Department of Health Services is a complex agency. With a budget of nearly \$2 billion and more than 2,000 employees, it is one of the largest departments in Arizona State Government. The Department oversees a wide array of programs and services designed to protect and promote the health of the state's diverse population. These include public health, including disease prevention and control, emergency medical services, emergency preparedness and response, the State Health Laboratory, public health data and statistics and the state's Vital Records. The Department oversees the state's public behavioral health system, with nearly 135,000 enrolled clients, and the state's only public psychiatric hospital, the Arizona State Hospital. The Department also oversees the licensing and certification of nursing homes, assisted living and child care centers, hospitals and other health care facilities.

In looking at the major health opportunities and challenges facing Arizona in the twenty-first century, the Department has identified six driving issues that align with the Department's vision and set a long-term strategic direction. These "areas of focus" are linked to four Departmental goals that define the Department's commitment to a healthy Arizona.

The Arizona Department of Health Services' 2009-2013 Strategic Plan integrates these issues and goals, which are framed by the Department's Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Guiding Principles and are supported by targeted strategies, objectives and performance measures.

We have established four strategic outcome goals for accomplishing the Department's mission to protect and improve the health and well-being of Arizona's residents. These goals and accompanying objectives provide the focus for ADHS investments of efforts and resources over the next five years.

The following summary highlights the key priorities of the Department, among the broad range of programs and activities that ADHS carries out, that are found in the plan:

**Goal 1** is to implement population-based public health systems. To achieve that goal, we will strive to reduce disease and public health threats and increase access to care, and strengthen the state's public health infrastructure. We also will work to support programs that enable older adult to remain active community members.

**Goal 2** is to enhance Arizona's public behavioral health system, and to promote recovery for all persons with serious mental illness, whether in the community-based mental health system or in the Arizona State Hospital.

**Goal 3** is to ensure the health and safety of all Arizonans by enhancing and supporting the Department's systems for licensing nursing homes, assisted living and child care centers, hospitals and other licensed health care facilities.

**Goal 4** is to deliver courteous, efficient, responsive and cost-effective services to Arizona residents, internal customers, and key policymakers.

The Department is undertaking an agency-wide assessment of all our essential services in an effort to be as effective as possible in working toward improving and protecting the health of all Arizona residents. This will be followed by a new strategic planning process.